



Motor Carrier Services Expands Hours

It's 3:58 p.m. and you really need to talk to Motor Carrier Services. Will anyone be there to pick up the phone?

As of July 17, yes, there will.

MCS will be open for business from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to more closely match its customers' business needs.

Does that mean that all work ends at 5 p.m.? No, overweight/overdimension permits received by 5 p.m. will be processed before workers head home.

If it is after 5 p.m. never fear, the 24-hour online system is always open. Apply for ODOW permits, handle IFTA and IRP transactions or check your escrow balance anytime. You can also send a note to contactmcs@modot.mo.gov anytime.

Honors for MCS Online System

Jan Skouby, Motor Carrier Services director, accepted a Laureate Medal on behalf of MoDOT at the Computerworld Honors Gala Awards Evening in Washington, D.C. The award recognizes the MCS 24-hour online system as an exceptional use of information technology.

Established in 1988, the Computerworld Honors Program brings together the Chairmen and CEOs of the world's foremost information technology companies to recognize those whose use of information technology has been especially noteworthy for originality of its conception, breadth of its vision, and significant benefit to society.

"MCS is pleased to receive the award," said Jan Skouby, MCS director.



"We thank all the motor carrier professionals who served as advisors on the project and all who continue to offer opinions and suggestions for ongoing improvements."

Online ODOW Change Paves Way for Automatic Routing

In mid-June, a new routing page will debut in the online ODOW permit application. When requesting a route, carriers will draw highway names and directions from pull-down menus. Before the change, route information was typed free form.

"Computers work best when they have highly specific data to work with," said Barb Hague, MCS special projects coordinator. "By drawing routes from pull-down boxes instead of typing directions, carriers give computers information in a form they can process with amazing speed."

The change will allow the system to compare requested routes with MoDOT's clearance and weight limit data when full automation of routine ODOW permit applications begins.

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Jan's Letter

Missouri's legislators ended their general session on May 12. I want to make you aware of two of the many bills they've passed to Governor Matt Blunt.

First, PRISM legislation passed. This bill allows the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to suspend, revoke or cancel the registration, license, permit or other credential issued to a motor carrier if a federal agency or the Commission issues an out-of-service order against them. The law allows the state to place a motor carrier's entire operation out of service but does not call for out-of-service orders against individual drivers or vehicles.

Next, legislators showed concern for travelers and my co-workers on the highway by stiffening penalties for traffic offenses occurring within highway work zones or construction zones. Under this act, anyone convicted of a moving violation within a work zone can be fined \$75 and anyone convicted of a speeding or passing within

a work zone when a highway worker is present can be fined \$300 in addition to any other fines authorized by law. The act also creates the crime of "endangerment of a highway worker" and "aggravated endangerment of a highway worker."

The Governor has until July 14 to sign these bills into law. If signed, they go into effect August 28, 2006.

In other good news, year-to-date traffic fatalities are down. When compared to last year, they're reduced by 20 percent through May. Thanks to all of you for making safety a priority. And buckle that safety belt – both on the job and off. It's a lifesaver.



Motor Carrier Services Director

Interstate Guard Cable Cuts Down on Head-on Collisions

The installation of hundreds of miles of guard cable on Missouri highways has proved successful in reducing cross-median crashes. A study completed this spring on Interstate 70 showed that guard cable succeeded in stopping cars from crossing into the opposing lanes of traffic 94 percent of the time.

On Interstate 70 in 2002, crossover crashes caused 24 fatalities. In 2005 after the installation of guard cable, only six crossover fatalities occurred. Of those six, four were in locations without guard cable.

"Median guard cables are effective in reducing the number of disabling or fatal cross-median crashes, and they are cost-effective," said MoDOT State Traffic Engineer Eileen Rackers. "The cables are hit often, and lives are being saved."

The strong push for the installation of guard cable on Missouri highways began in 2002. It is installed on stretches of interstate where the median is less than 60 feet wide. Installation on I-70 is almost complete. Interstates 44 and 29 should be done by next year. I-435 also features guard cable.

"Guard cable is one of the best things we're doing right now in terms of safety," said Brian Chandler, Traffic Studies and Corrections engineer. "It's very successful in reducing the number of fatalities and disabling injuries on Missouri interstates."



Interstate 44 Work Zone Update

Cuba – Mile Markers 201 to 214 – Two Lanes Restored In Each Direction - 20 Days Earlier than Scheduled

The new westbound lanes on Interstate 44 near Cuba, Missouri opened to traffic May 5, ending a 13-mile head-to-head traffic restriction. Two lanes are open in each direction. From time to time, short sections of the lanes might close so crews can install remaining items such as median guard cable.

“We appreciate travelers’ patience during the six weeks of lane restrictions,” said MoDOT South Central District Engineer Tom Stehn. “In return, they should enjoy the smooth ride on these miles for many years.”

Lebanon – Mile Markers 135 to 145 – Head-to-Head Traffic Started June 7

A 10.5-mile work zone restricts traffic to one lane each for eastbound and westbound traffic east of Lebanon, Mo. As workers reconstruct the eastbound lanes. Expect entrance and exit ramp closures at Route F. At Routes N/T, the eastbound entrance ramp will close, however, at mile marker 145 (Hazelgreen, Mo.), all ramps will remain open.

Though the lane arrangement is inconvenient, it allows workers to operate unimpeded by traffic, thereby returning the interstate to more normal conditions by mid-August, weather permitting.

Eureka – Nearby Mile Marker 264 – Two Lanes Each Direction

Near its junction with Route 109, the driving lanes of I-44

will be completely replaced, requiring first the westbound, then later, the eastbound lanes to be closed to traffic. On and off ramps at Route 109 will close, but detour routes will be clearly marked.

In June, eastbound and westbound I-44 will be reduced from three lanes to two lanes. Both eastbound and westbound traffic will be traveling on the eastbound lanes, which will be separated by a concrete barrier. During the July 4 holiday period, (July 1-July 4) all lanes in both directions will be open.

Beginning in early July through approximately September 1, two lanes of traffic for each direction will run on the newly improved westbound lanes. Eastbound and westbound I-44 will continue to be reduced from three lanes to two lanes.

MoDOT expects significant delays while I-44 restoration work is under way, especially during peak travel times. Westbound I-44 can be very congested on Friday afternoons and eastbound I-44 has heavy traffic on Sunday afternoons.

Real-time St. Louis-area traffic information is available on MoDOT’s Gateway Guide web site, www.gatewayguide.com or through a St. Louis traffic hotline, 1-888 511-4785.

MCS Earns Bridges to Diversity Certificate

You might have noticed the MoDOT mission statement printed in many of Motor Carrier Services’ publications. It states in broad terms the agency’s focus. MoDOT also has a list of values. Values represent the fundamental principles and philosophy of the agency and guide the agency’s behavior. Among the values is this:

MoDOT will value diversity because we believe in the power of our differences.

Motor Carrier Services recently earned the first MoDOT Bridges to Diversity certificate. It is given to the MoDOT unit that best exemplifies the value of diversity through its hiring, promotion and operating practices.

Why did MCS earn the award? In addition to its high percentage of female employees, the division recruits minority students who attend Lincoln University for MoDOT’s co-op program, hiring many of them for full time employment upon graduation. MCS investigators also completed diversity awareness training designed to help them communicate more effectively with individuals from different backgrounds.

MCS is proud to receive this recognition and will continue to learn from others’ experiences.

Safety and HazMat Seminars Offered

MoDOT Motor Carrier Services offers free seminars this summer to update you on the latest in commercial vehicle safety regulations and federal hazardous materials rules.

The training, scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., is designed for company management. Participation is limited to full-time motor carrier employees. Seating is at a pre-

mium, so please make your reservations as soon as possible. For information or to make reservations, contact Karen Douglas (573) 522-9001 or Tonya Jaegers (573) 522-4937.

Check our web site, www.modot.org/mcs for more details and updates.

General Safety Outreach Dates and Locations: 9:00 – 3:30

Date	City	Place	Phone No.
July 11	Lee's Summit	MoDOT Kansas City Area District, 600 NE Colbern Rd	816-622-6500
July 13	St. Joseph	Holiday Inn Riverfront, 102 South 3rd Street	816-279-8000
July 18	Macon	MoDOT North Central District, 902 North Missouri Street, Training Room	660-385-3176
July 18	Cape Girardeau	VFW Hall, 1049 Kingshighway	N/A
July 19	Jefferson City	MoDOT Motor Carrier Services, 1320 Creek Trail Drive, I-70 Meeting Room	573-522-9001
July 21	Joplin	MoDOT, Southwest District Office, 3901 E 32nd St, 2nd Floor, Room A & B	800-654-5428
July 21	Willow Springs	MoDOT South Central District, 3956 East Main	417-469-3134
July 25	Chesterfield	MoDOT Traffic Mgmt Center, 14301 S. Outer Rd. 40, Meeting Room 209	314-340-4100
Aug 4	Springfield	Lamplighter Inn & Suites, 2820 North Glenstone Ave	417-869-3900

Hazardous Materials Session Dates and Locations: 9:00 – 3:30

Date	City	Place	Phone No.
July 12	Lee's Summit	MoDOT K.C. Area District Office, 600 NE Colbern Rd	816-622-6500
July 12	St. Joseph	Holiday Inn Riverfront, 102 South 3rd Street	816-279-8000
July 19	Cape Girardeau	VFW Hall, 1049 Kingshighway	N/A
July 27	Chesterfield	MoDOT Traffic Management Center, 14301 S. Outer Rd. 40, Meeting Room 209	314-340-4100
August 1	Springfield	Lamplighter Inn & Suites, 2820 N Glenstone Ave	417-869-3900

Skill Performance Evaluation

Motor Carrier Services sponsored a Skill Performance Evaluation course in April for state and federal employees who evaluate drivers with limb impairments or amputations. Certain medically unqualified drivers, who are otherwise qualified, can obtain a Skill Performance Evaluation (SPE) Certificate in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. An SPE certificate enables the applicant to operate a commercial motor vehicle on public highways. Applicants are subject to state and federal evaluation policies, procedures and limitations as deemed consistent with public safety.

Conducted by National Training Center's federal instructors with the assistance of volunteers from the Veterans Administration and the trucking industry, the course featured instructors who are upper and lower amputees who specialize in prosthetic devices and vehicle modifications.

Motor Carrier Services and NTC thank Opie's Trucking of Eldon, MO for providing three tanker trucks for the skills portions of the course.

New Roadside Markers Sprout Up Along Missouri Interstates

New roadside markers going up this year will help travelers instantly determine their exact location and direction of travel on Missouri's interstate highways. The markers are important emergency response devices, allowing stranded motorists to pinpoint their location for quicker assistance.



"These new roadway markers will be a big help to travelers, and we're pleased to put them up along all our busy interstates," said Missouri Department of Transportation Director Pete Rahn. "About 50 million miles a day are traveled on Missouri interstates, many of them by people unfamiliar with the area. If they get lost or stranded, it can create a very dangerous situation. They need to know where they are when they ask for help – these signs give them that vital information."

Missouri is one of the first states in the nation to make extensive use of these markers, which were recently approved for interstates by the federal government.

MoDOT plans to have them in place along all of Missouri's 1,200 miles of interstate highways by the end of the year. The green signs will be placed every two-tenths of a mile along the right edge of the highways, in each direction. They display the road's name, direction of travel and exact mileage location, down to the nearest tenth of a mile.

The new signs replace existing mileage markers, which are smaller, placed only once per mile and which feature no route information, as well as the white posts placed every tenth of a mile to make interstate shoulders more visible. Replacing both sets of older signs with the new markers is estimated to save more than \$200,000 a year in maintenance costs.

Get Up-to-the-Minute News With E-Updates

MCS announces a way to get the latest news.

E-Updates is a subscription-based e-mail service. When MCS has information to share about IFTA, IRP, OD/OW, Single State Registration, Safety and Compliance matters, major highway incidents and other news, subscribers receive a note in their e-mailbox.

It's easy to subscribe. Simply visit www.modot.org, click the E-Update tab on the left side of the page and create an account. You'll be asked to create your own ID and password and to provide your name and e-mail address.

Log into the system and click on Edit Your Subscriptions. You'll choose from a list of motor carrier topics. Select one or all of them and when there is news you need to know MCS will e-mail it to you. You can unsubscribe at any time.

People Are Talking About the 24-Hour Online System

The 24-hour online system is growing in popularity. More than 80 percent of ODOV permit applications now arrive over the Internet. IFTA quarterlies and IRP updates and registration renewals can also be filed online.

For those times that the system is confusing, MCS is happy to offer help by phone or in person. Call our toll-free number or write to contactmcs@modot.mo.gov.

Here's what some folks are saying:

I just wanted to thank you for the training on your web-based systems. The meeting was very informative and helped me understand better how to use the system. I was very impressed with the overall final production of this system. Bringing in all these systems and linking them together is a plus for carriers and for MoDOT. Mary Jo and Barbara did an excellent job of training. The hands on approach made it so much easier to understand.

Rusty Heisten
D&D Sexton Inc.

I worked for J B Trucking when Jerry Bartle owned the company and that was before the IFTA software I downloaded off the web page some time ago. I thought that was a good little program making it all somewhat easier, but oh - this is so much better. Once I started inputting the data I was done in just a matter of moments and even with my slight problem the help response was reasonably quick and accurate. I no longer work for any trucking company, but an owner operator came to me asking me to help him do his IFTA return and I was done with it in just a few hours. Great job guys! I'm truly impressed!

Tammy L. Albrecht
For Your Convenience

Uniform Carrier Registration Plan Board of Directors Established

On May 12 of this year, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration announced the establishment of a Board of Directors for the Unified Carrier Registration Plan mandated by the SAFETY-LU Act. The board will issue rules and regulations to govern the Uniform Carrier Registration Agreement. The UCR Agreement replaces the Single State Registration System, which is due to expire on January 1, 2007.

The UCR Agreement will govern the collection and distribution of registration and financial responsibility information provided and fees paid by for-hire and private motor carriers, brokers, freight forwarders, and leasing companies.

The Secretary of Transportation quickly established the initial 15-member Board of Directors by direct appointment due to the imminent sunset of SSRS and the potential

for significant loss of revenue to the 39 participating States if work is not completed prior to the new year. FMCSA plans to solicit in the Federal Register nominations for successor membership prior to expiration of terms of membership.

The appointments are effective June 1, 2006.

Barb Hague Appointed to UCR Agreement Board

Barb Hague, special projects coordinator in MoDOT's Motor Carrier Services division was named to a one-year term on the UCR Agreement Board of Directors. She is one of five professionals from State agencies to serve in that capacity.



Hague has 35 years of experience in State transportation regulation, supervision of the operating authority application, licensing, insurance and tariff requirements for intrastate and interstate carriers. She coordinated the 24-hour online system for motor carrier business transactions with MoDOT.

"There is a lot of intense work ahead to complete the regulations by the year's end," said Hague. "I'm honored to have the opportunity to represent the states on the board."

MCS Field Offices

Motor Carrier Services employees in nine field offices investigate safety complaints and conduct safety audits and compliance reviews of carrier operations. You can call them with questions about these programs – or if you'd like them to make a safety presentation for your company or organization.

They welcome your calls about safety and compliance, but want you to know that OD/OW permit, IFTA and IRP calls should go to 1-866-831-6277.

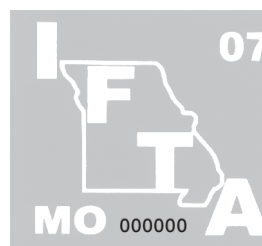
MCS District Field Offices		
Cameron	Phone: 816-649-1200	Fax: 816-649-1210
Macon	Phone: 660-385-1496	Fax: 660-385-1517
Warrensburg	Phone: 660-543-1000	Fax: 660-543-1003
Jefferson City	Phone: 573-522-4936	Fax: 573-751-4354
St. Charles*	Phone: 636-940-3315	Fax: 636-940-3319
Joplin	Phone: 417-629-3347	Fax: 417-629-3373
Springfield	Phone: 417-895-6365	Fax: 417-895-6364
Willow Springs	Phone: 417-469-1036	Fax: 417-469-4802
Poplar Bluff	Phone: 573-840-9740	Fax: 573-840-9206

* Effective June 28, MCS staffers based in St. Charles will move to the MoDOT St. Louis Area district office in Chesterfield, MO. The current phone and fax numbers will forward for several months. See the MCS Web site in July or the next issue of News on Wheels for the new Chesterfield phone number.

IFTA Stickers Get Serial

Interstate carriers will notice something new when they receive 2007 IFTA decals later this year. Each pair of stickers bears its own unique serial number.

Because the serial number is unique to the pair of decals, if one is lost or stolen, both must be replaced. Though stickers will not be tied to a specific vehicle, carriers with multiple vehicles must take care that the decals on their equipment have matching numbers.



IFTA requires all member states and provinces to add serial numbers to decals. The numbers, like those on private 4-wheel license tabs, will be verified during a truck inspection or audit.

Investigators Learn Anti-Terrorism Techniques

Recently, several MoDOT Motor Carrier Services investigators attended Anti-Terrorism Intelligence Awareness training provided by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center. They gained a working knowledge of the intelligence process and the tools and techniques that can be used to identify terrorist activity. Special emphasis was given to information gathering and reporting, how to identify foreign and domestic hate groups and how to identify incident precursors such as terror funding by cargo theft.

It's A Celebration!

This month marks the national celebration of the 50th anniversary of the interstate network that began with the 1956 passage of the Federal-Aid Highway Act.

MoDOT and its partners will mark this historic occasion with two main events:

June 22 Our Interstates at 50: A Midlife Crisis – a public policy forum to be held at the University of Missouri-Columbia to discuss the past, present and future of our interstates.

June 28 Pubic event at the Heart of St. Charles Banquet Center to pay tribute to the first interstate project, located at Interstate 70 and Fifth Street in St. Charles.

Miles 'n' More

Miles 'n' More is a recognition that recognizes exceptional employee efforts at Motor Carrier Services. The award is given four times a year to an MCS employee who:

- Went above and beyond to assist a co-worker,
- Suggested a work process improvement that was subsequently implemented,
- Solved a difficult work-related problem, and/or
- Made a suggestion that saves time or money.

Mike Wade, a senior transportation enforcement investigator in his fifth year with MoDOT, received the Miles 'n' More award for the first quarter of 2006 in recognition of his excellent customer service skills. He regularly goes above and beyond to help carriers and co-workers accomplish their goals.



Datelines

June 1

Payment due for those who have a June 30 renewal date

MCS mails out renewal packets for those who have a September 30 (3rd quarter) renewal date

July 1

3rd quarter renewal filing is due

July 4

Independence Day – All MoDOT offices are closed

Sept 1

3rd quarter renewal payment is due

MCS mails out renewal packets for those who have a December 31 (4th quarter) renewal date.

Sept 30

Carriers with 3rd quarter renewals must display updated plates and carry new cab cards

Did You Know?

If you have a userID and password, you can file IFTA online without having to pay online. If you wish, you can mail in a check and use the 24-hour online system to compute your return and check for common mathematical errors. If you choose to mail your paperwork instead, you can still log on and look through the information entered by MCS.

We're here to help. If you have any questions about filing IFTA through the online system, just call. MCS is happy to assist you.

News on Wheels

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Motor Carrier Services
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Additional copies available upon request.
If you have any questions or comments,
please send them to the address at left.

Motor Carrier Services Director
Jan Skouby

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Our mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.





News on **Wheels**

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toll free 866.831.6277

Fax

573.751.0916

International Registration Plan	Regulations, IRP applications, reciprocity, trip permits, temporary authorizations, license plates, cab cards
International Fuel Tax Agreement	Regulations, Missouri IFTA applications, temporary fuel permits
Overdimension and Overweight	Regulations, permits, blanket permits
Single State Registration, Interstate Exempt, Intrastate Authority, Housemovers License, Hazardous Waste and Waste Tires	Applications, SSRS receipts, stamps, stickers, licenses, proof of insurance
Safety and HM Regulations/Enforcement	Information, regulations, training, compliance reviews, educational contacts, complaint investigations

Web site: www.modot.org/mcs